

I do not want Rupert Murdoch and Clear Channel to control what my only sources of information will be because they are the richest and most powerful.

I urge you to preserve the independence and diversity of our nation's media. I believe that relaxing the ownership guidelines as you propose would be disastrous to this goal.

The spectrum remains scarce, and relaxing ownership will only mean that this scarce spectrum is used for less diverse functions. I cannot imagine that anyone on the Commission believes that homogenization of ownership and viewpoints is in any way beneficial to the public.

The spectrum is a resource that must be preserved. Of course a few outlets want to dominate this resource. I believe it is your mission to protect me and the public from this domination.

The four major television networks get their profits by putting their nationally-oriented programming in front of the largest national audience possible, which maximizes advertising revenue. These companies therefore have no incentive to support or promote locally oriented programming that may be more interesting and more useful to a particular community at a particular point in time.

It is critical that these national companies not be allowed to be so large through ownership of too many local channels that they can dictate programming that does not meet the needs and tastes of the local community. Clearly, local broadcasters with no national profit-maximizing motives are better positioned to be responsive to their local communities. Preserving the 35 percent broadcast ownership cap helps achieve this objective.

The FCC must preserve this and other rules that were intended to provide multiple media owners and voices in a market. Greater consolidation among media giants could reduce the assortment of voices and opinions that are essential to a healthy democracy. If any of these six rules is seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper and TV station, giving it excessive control over the local news and information we see and hear.

Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discourse in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses that use local media for advertising.

Please consider NOT relaxing the ownership guidelines.

Thank you.